

ABSTRACT

The present invention decreases the processing load of the content provision apparatus when providing the content data. An apparatus according to the present invention acquires the content-provision addresses and data-size information corresponding to the content data from the acquisition utilization information provision server 5. The apparatus then determines the division-start positions and division-end positions for the content data, based on the content-provision addresses and data-size information. The apparatus subsequently transmits to each content provision server 6A through 6N the division-part-request information including the division-start positions, the division-end positions and the content-identification information. After that, the apparatus receives each division part from the content provision servers 6A through 6N and restore the content data. In this manner, the apparatus specifies the content data, the division-start positions and the division-end positions. In response to that, each content provision apparatus transmits the division part whose data size is smaller than the content data. That reduces the processing load of the content provision apparatus.